

Yuma County, Arizona DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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5-Mile Zone, D-8580 Bureau of Reclamation P.O.Box 25007 Denver, Colorado Sent via FAX #720-544-0601

October 10, 2003

Dear Sir/Madam,

A review of the 5 Mile Zone Study Area Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Assessment has been completed and the following recommendations are being submitted.

The Alternate "C" is the most compatible alternate with the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan. The 2010 Comprehensive Plan states on page 4D-14 that Yuma County Land use patterns are based on compatibility with the City of San Luis General Plan with annexation potential. Therefore, the Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan supports the City of San Luis General Plan Goals, Objectives, and Policies consistent with the potential growth and development patterns on the Yuma Mesa that is within the 5- Mile Zone.

The Yuma County 2010 Comprehensive Plan, page 3-13 Goal: Sustaining Agriculture and Rural Character; Objective: Enhance and optimize the productivity of prime agriculture lands; Policy: Yuma County will discourage the conversion of farmland to residential in the Yuma Valley. These Goals, Objectives and Policies essentially provide for protection and sustainability of agriculture production in the Yuma Valley and the encouragement of development on the Yuma Mesa where the 5 Mile Zone is located.

Alternates B, C, and D state that lands could be exchanged between the Hillander "C" and the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) if the City of San Luis were to purchase them from the private landholders. BOR should consider land exchanges and consolidation of the lands between the City of San Luis and the Hillander "C", thus ensuring that the acquired BOR lands could be better managed for the protection of the 5-Mile Zone study area.

The following comments are specifically regarding the 5 Mile Zone EA/RMP:

Page IV-11: Reclamation would review the Yuma County planning and zoning commission's comprehensive plan and assist in its goal to "keep population out of

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